HOUSE No. 575

By Mr. Kulik of Worthington, petition of David Paul Linsky and others relative to the indemnification of certain municipal employees. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

David Paul Linsky Stephen M. Brewer Deborah D. Blumer Richard T. Moore John D. Keenan Louis L. Kafka John W. Scibak Cory Atkins Bruce E. Tarr **Shirley Gomes** Charles A. Murphy Douglas W. Petersen Stephen Kulik Denis E. Guyer Emile J. Goguen Philip Travis Martha M. Walz

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING INDEMNIFICATION FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 9 of Chapter 258 of the General Laws is hereby
- 2 amended by inserting the following paragraphs at the end of the
- 3 section:—
- 4 If in the event a suit is commenced against an incumbent or
- 5 former municipal chief elected official; city or town manager;
- 6 town administrator, executive secretary or administrative assistant
- 7 as defined by Chapter 41, Section 108N, or official performing the
- 8 same duties with a different title; or a municipal department head,
- 9 including but not limited to the police chief, by reason of a claim
- 10 for damages resulting from an alleged intentional or negligent tort
- 11 arising out of his performance of the duties of his office, the city
- 12 or town, at the request of said individual, shall provide legal rep-
- 13 resentation of said individual.

- A city or town shall indemnify said individual from all financial loss and expenses, including but not limited to reasonable legal fees and costs, if any, in an amount not to exceed two million dollars arising out of any claim, action, award, compromise, settlement or judgment resulting from any alleged tort or contract or civil rights violations; provided however, that this section shall apply only where such alleged matter occurred within the scope of the individual's official duties.
- No individual shall be indemnified for any violation of federal or state law if such person acted in a wanton or malicious manner.